IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown:

1. (Previously Presented) A DNA molecular size marker comprising DNA fragments of 441, 325, 231, 210, 131, 116, 94 and 79 base pairs.

2. (Previously Presented) A method for the production of the molecular size marker of claim 1, the method comprising:

a) isolation of DNA from mycobacteriae,
b) amplification of hsp65 gene by PCR,
c) purification of DNA amplification products,
d) molecular cloning into a plasmid vector,
e) isolation of the plasmid vector, and
f) restriction enzyme digestion.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the species of mycobacteriae used for the isolation of DNA produce DNA fragments of 441, 325, 231, 210, 131, 116, 94 and 79 base pairs.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the species of mycobacteriae is selected from the group consisting of *M. simiae, M. smegmatis, M. gallinarum, M. intracellulare,* and *M. terrae.*

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein primers TB11 (5' ACC AAC GAT GGT GTG TCC AT 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 1)**), and TB12 (5' CTT GTC GAA CCG CAT ACC CT 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 2)**) are used in the amplification of hsp65 gene.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the restriction enzyme is BstEII.

7. (Previously Presented) A method for determining the size of restriction fragments obtained by BstEII digestion during electrophoretic analysis of hsp65 by PCR-REA, the method comprising the molecular size marker of claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) A DNA molecular size marker comprising DNA fragments of 185, 161, 152, 139, 127, 103, 87, 69, 59, 58, 42, 40, 36 and 34 base pairs.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for the production of the molecular size marker of claim 8, the method comprising:

a) isolation of DNA from mycobacteriae,

b) amplification of hsp65 gene by PCR,

c) purification of DNA amplification products,

d) molecular cloning into a plasmid vector,

e) isolation of the plasmid vector, and

f) restriction enzyme digestion.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the species of mycobacteriae used for the isolation of DNA produce DNA fragments of 185, 161, 152, 139, 127, 103, 87, 69, 59, 58, 42, 40, 36 and 34 base pairs.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the species of mycobacteriae is selected from the group consisting of *M. tuberculosis, M. simiae, M. gallinarum, M. chitae,* and *M. xenopi.*

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein primers TB11 (5' ACC AAC GAT GGT GTG TCC AT 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 1)**), and TB12 (5' CTT GTC GAA CCG CAT ACC CT 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 2)**) are used in the amplification of hsp65 gene.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the restriction enzyme is HaeIII.

14. (Previously Presented) A method for determining the size of restriction fragments obtained by HaeIII digestion during electrophoretic analysis of hsp65 by PCR-REA, the method comprising the molecular size marker of claim 8.